

HOPE SABBATH SCHOOL

The Book of James – Part 4

Being and Doing

Welcome to Hope Sabbath School--an in-depth interactive study of the Word of God. We are continuing our study of the Book of James. Our topic today: Being and Doing.

Scripture Theme Song: “Bless the LORD” – Psalm 103:1-4

Intro: Followers of Jesus should be doers of the Word, not in an attempt to save ourselves but because we are saved by God’s grace.

- 1) The need for honest self-examination
 - a) James 1:22-24
 - b) 2 Corinthians 13:5
 - c) Example of the need for honest self-examination:
 - i) Luke 18:11-12
 - ii) Matthew 19:16-20
 - iii) Matthew 26:31-35
 - d) How can we avoid the trap of preoccupation with self or the trap of comparing ourselves with others? (Hebrews 12:1-3)
- 2) Being a doer of the Word
 - a) James 1:22 – ongoing lifestyle of obedience
 - b) Matthew 7:21-27
 - c) Examples:
 - i) David: Psalm 40:8;
 - ii) Joseph: Matthew 1:24, 2:13-14, 2:19-21

- d) How can we come to the place in our relationship with Jesus where we view doing His will as a delight rather than a painful obligation?
- 3) The perfect law of freedom
 - a) James 1:25
 - b) If we view God’s law as a list of obligations in order to be saved, we come under bondage. What change is necessary in order to view God’s law as “the perfect law of liberty”?
 - i) Romans 8:1-4
 - ii) 2 Corinthians 3:17-18
 - c) When did you experience the freedom of knowing that your salvation was not based on how well you performed but rather on what Christ has done for you?
 - d) Why is a person who has experienced the joy of salvation by faith in Jesus free to live a life of joyful obedience?
 - 4) Pure and undefiled Christianity
 - a) Not this: James 1:26 – (See Matthew 15:17-20)
 - b) But this: James 1:27
 - i) Why do you think James begins with “visit orphans and widows”? Matthew 25:34-36; Romans 12:9-18; Matthew 22:39
 - ii) Then he adds: “Keep oneself unspotted from the world”. (See 1 John 2:15-17).
(1) How is this possible? 2 Peter 1:2-4
 - c) How do you respond to this appeal to be a doer of the Word?